

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Periodicals

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Congratulations to one of our high school seniors, Melissa Wohrley, who advanced to the IHSA State Tennis Tournament held recently. We are very proud of you!

Find us on Facebook!

Search for "St. John's Lutheran Church" and join our page.



November Birthdays, Anniversaries, Special Days, Upcoming Events

God's continued blessings to the following members of our congregation...

75th+ Birthday

Nov. 4 June Pollex
Nov. 8 Phyllis Hitchins
Nov. 9 Joyce Hoelzer
Nov. 12 Marilyn Schaller
Nov. 14 Robert Meinhardt
Nov. 15 Delphine Dalton
Ruth Wedemeyer
Nov. 22 Dorothy Ladenburger
Nov. 25 Alice Sharp
Nov. 27 Donna Hasse
Barbara Zinke
Nov. 29 Betty Dufour

50+ Anniversary

Wilbert & Carol Kerchner
November 27th — 62 years

Upcoming Events

November

3 All Teams meeting at 7pm
6 All Saints Sunday
6 Mission Trip meeting at 11:15am
17 Church Council at 6:30pm
19 No Saturday worship
20 Celebration of Ministry Sunday followed by congregational potluck
24 Office Closed — Thanksgiving Day
25 Office Closed — Thanksgiving Holiday
27 Hymn Festival at 2pm

December

1 All Teams meeting at 7pm
4 New Member Inquiry at 10:15am
4 Spaghetti Supper 4:30pm to 7pm
11 New Member Received at 9am worship
15 Church Council at 6:30pm
18 Sunday School Christmas program at 9am
24 Christmas Eve worship 5pm & 10pm
25 Christmas Day worship at 9am
31 NO Saturday worship



DON'T FORGET TO "FALL BACK" BEFORE GOING TO BED ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH. SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK ONE HOUR AS DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME COMES TO AN END.

St. John's Lutheran Church



ST. JOHN'S EAGLE

Volume 45, Issue 9

November 2016

Special items of interest:

We hope you will join us for worship!

Saturday worship 5pm
Sunday worship 9am
Fellowship 10am
Sunday School 10:10am

If you want Pastor Lepp to know when you are hospitalized, please contact the church office. Because of privacy laws, the hospital will not contact us.

We are missing a handbell case. Please contact the office if you have any information. Thank you.

Our quilting ladies have been sewing more "Walker Bags". You will find a basket of these colorful and handy fabric bags in the Narthex. Please feel free to take one for yourself or someone you know.

It's that time of year to order Poinsettias to decorate the church during the Christmas Season. The cost is \$10.00 and orders must be received in the church office by December 1st. Order forms will be available soon.

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First, We Give Of Ourselves



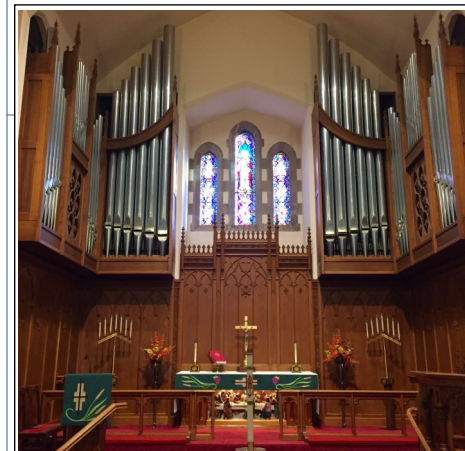
Exciting events and grace filled days are happening at St. John's! Because of you, your family, and our congregational family, the gospel is being boldly proclaimed and the joy of God's grace in Christ is celebrated in marvelous ways. Indeed, through our ministry together, countless lives are being touched with the love of Christ.

Each week this fall we have been asked two questions — "Where have I seen or experienced God's grace?" And "Where and how have I shared God's grace with others?" Now each member at St. John's is being asked to consider why you give and how you might grow in your giving. We are asked to pray about what it might mean to first give of yourself and to give in grace.

Celebration Sunday — November 20th

Our fall emphasis will culminate with a Celebration of Ministry Sunday and the sharing of commitments of how we can "give of ourselves" in ministry on Sunday, November 20th. We will also enjoy a congregational potluck luncheon following worship.

Please remember to bring your 2017 Time, Talent and Giving pledge form to worship with you on Sunday, November 20th. If you are unable to attend, please bring (or mail) your pledge form to the office. When filling out your Time and Talent form, remember that the office will assign volunteers based on this new 2017 Time and Talent sheet. Even if you've been a faithful volunteer in the past, please fill out this year's form with your preferences. Thank you!

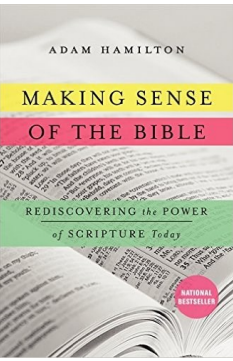


Festival of Music for the Season at St. John's Lutheran Church Sunday, November 27th at 2pm

We are excited to announce that we will be joined by Dr. Roy W. Carroll, cantor and organist at Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, Iowa.

This festival of organ music, singing, instruments and readings is open to the public, and will prepare us for the upcoming Advent and Christmas Season.

If you would like to sing in the choir, please contact the church office for the music. Rehearsal will be at 1pm before the concert on November 27th.



A new Bible study group is forming group for both men and women. This group will meet for the first time on November 6th. They will be using the series: *Making Sense of the Bible* by Adam Hamilton. Everyone is invited to be at the ground floor of establishing this new Adult group which will meet following Fellowship Time in the North Fellowship Hall (on the “other side” of the wall.)

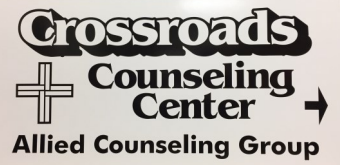


Inquiry Class

Pastor Lepp will be holding an “Inquiry Class” on Sunday, December 4th at 10:15am during the Education Hour. This class is for anyone interested in learning more about the ministry of St. John’s. We will also be talking about what it means to be Lutheran. Please grab a snack and a cup of coffee, and then join her in the south side of the Fellowship Hall near the Luther Lounge. This class promises to be really interesting, particularly for those who are considering membership. Everyone is welcome! New members will be received during worship on Sunday, December 11th.

Crossroads Counseling Center

I am very pleased to announce that St. John’s Lutheran Church will be re-opening the Crossroads Counseling Center in November with services provided by Allied Counseling Group of LaSalle, IL. This means that professional behavioral health counseling services will once again be provided for our congregation and for the Mendota area, with the office located in our building. Dr. Michael Lau will be the counselor coming to Mendota each Thursday, starting on November 3rd. Times may expand into other days based upon need.



We will have the opportunity to meet Dr. Lau and Ms. Pamela Wolf on Sunday November 20th. Dr. Lau is a highly credentialed professional licensed therapist. Ms. Wolf, the CEO of Allied Counseling Group, is also a highly skilled licensed therapist who will be available based upon need.

I wish to thank the Task Force consisting of Richard Althaus (chair), Mitch Landgraf, and Lauren Anderson for their persistence in prayer, research, and discernment which led to this new partnership. I also would like to thank the Council for their leadership these past several months as decisions were being made.

You may begin contacting Allied Counseling for appointments at (815) 224-4522 and ask for the Mendota site. Please call the church office for further information.

Joyfully in Christ,
Pastor Janet Lepp

**All Saints Sunday
November 6th**



Scripture speaks of grief and its heavy toll on those who have suffered loss. More frequently, however, in the New Testament we read about the “joy that comes in the morning”. That Joy comes when we lift our faith to remember the Resurrection and the Victory won by our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. During worship on November 6th, we will remember in thanksgiving the saints who have gone before us, those who this past year have joined the Church Triumphant. We remember: *Joyce Bridges, Nancy Childers, Betty Fassig, John Fassig, Doris Goebel, Kenneth Kreiser, Virginia Piller, Mary Preston, Randall Radtke, Darrell Rausch, Katherine Robinson, Alma Schuetz, Robert Stein, and Maxine Williams.*

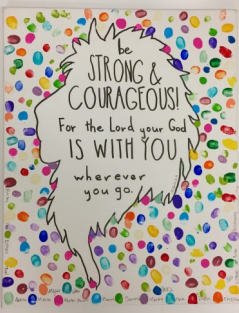


Everyone is invited to join us at the *Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve worship* to be held at First Presbyter-ian Church on Wednesday, November 23rd at 7pm. Pastor Janet Lepp will be delivering the message. Hope to see you there!



St. John's Youth News

"Growing Together in our Faith as we Serve Others"



Confirmation Class News...

We had a really great time at our Lock-In! Thank you to Pastor Janet, Mr. Dan, Maria, Brent Bonine, Becky Hanaman, Aimee Holland (crafts), Angie Jackson, Bonni Kaiser, and Mitch Landgraf who all helped to make our night together so special! During the night, we worshipped in the Chapel, studied our Bible, created beautiful artwork (like the painting shown above), practiced the chimes, enjoyed delicious food, played games, personalized lunch sacks for the PADS homeless shelter, and even slept a little bit! The picture at the right was taken around midnight while we were all still very awake!



High School Class News...

High School Sunday School class meets weekly for breakfast and a relaxed atmosphere of conversation. Your friends are always welcome to join us!



Our annual Spaghetti Dinner will be held on Sunday, December 4th from 4:30pm to 7pm. We will be serving you a delicious dinner of spaghetti with meat sauce, breadsticks, salad, and dessert. Our junior high and high school students are looking forward to serving you at your table again this year. Please invite your family and friends to join you for this freewill offering meal. All proceeds will go to support the 2017 Mission Trips and other youth activities.

***Students** — Information will be shared with you very soon regarding how you and your family can help with this terrific and tasty event. (Food donations, kitchen prep, serving, clean-up, etc.)*

It's not too late for you to join the 2017 mission trip team! All current 8th graders through high school students are invited. Our next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, November 6th at 11:15am. We will be voting on our site location at this meeting. Will we be heading to Cairo, IL; Leech Lake, MN; Philadelphia, PA; Red Lake, MN; or Rosebud, SD? Check out www.youthworks.com for information on each of these sites. The last day to reserve your spot on the trip is December 4th. Please see Maria if you have any questions.



Our High School youth begin their Sunday School hour by sharing breakfast together, catching up with one another on the week's activities, and by sharing prayer requests. Would you like to provide breakfast snacks for the class? Donuts, baked goods, pre-packaged snacks, fruit, breakfast casseroles, breakfast pizzas, etc. are always a big hit! Thanks in advance for your generosity and in carrying the tradition of feeding the youth of “The Upper Room.”



~ THANK YOU ~

Maria thanks everyone for your prayers, calls and cards while she is at Seminary during the week. The outpouring of love and support is very uplifting.

Classes are going well and Maria is learning many interesting things.

She will be preaching at St. John's on the weekend of November 12th and 13th.